

## Summary of Discussion

Combined Legislative-Governance Committee Meeting - February 25, 2002

1. Costa bill SB 1653, introduced last week. Committee members want to spend time reviewing the bill. There were several points that members agreed to work on to develop a Bay Area consensus. As members write up drafts of these points, ABAG will circulate them for comment.

2. CALFED authorization and funding. The group discussed the need for having the CALFED governance structure determine and certify a "balanced" program, and not to leave this to the discretion of federal legislators.

Andy Moran suggests proposing an amendment to SB 1653:

"The intent of the amendment is to provide linkage to federal legislation and a process by which Congress can take notice of action by the California Bay-Delta Commission with respect to approving an annual program of projects and budget that implements CALFED in a balanced fashion. The Governor and Secretary would retain their independent authority to make findings of imbalance. The amendment includes concepts and language included in the Feinstein/Boxer and Calvert authorization bills.

Add a new subsection (h) to Section 79423 (regarding the preparation of annual program plans and budgets).

(h) The California Bay-Delta Commission shall complete preparation and approval of the annual program plan and budget prior to consideration of CALFED agencies' annual budget by the Legislature and Congress. The approved annual program plan and budget shall be submitted to the Legislature and Congress with a record of action by the Commission certifying that:

(1) The CALFED program is progressing in a balanced manner with respect to all program components consisting of water storage, ecosystem restoration, water supply reliability, conveyance, water use efficiency, water quality, water transfers, watersheds, Environmental Water Account, levee stability, governance, and science;

(2) Implementation of the proposed program plan and budget will result in balanced implementation in all CALFED program areas and will satisfy the solution principles and primary objectives of the CALFED program;

(3) The proposed program plan and budget have been subjected to credible and objective scientific review by the CALFED science program; and

(4) Approval of the annual program plan and budget by the Commission was based on the best available scientific information."

Greg Zlotnick and Barry Nelson agreed to draft a letter to the California delegation in DC supporting CALFED authorization.

3. Next meeting set for April 18<sup>th</sup> 2002.